

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

212-270. (Cancelled)

271. (Currently Amended) A method of redeeming currency from a customer at a self-service machine, comprising:

receiving, in a bulk coin receptacle located in a first region of the self-service machine, randomly oriented bulk coins input by said customer;

moving the coins from the bulk coin receptacle in the first region of the self-service machine to a coin separation module in a second region of the self-service machine;

separating the coins into a single-file stream of coins using the coin separation module; discriminating, using at least one coin discrimination device disposed downstream of the coin separation module, each coin in the stream of coins to determine whether it is a valid coin;

determining a total value of the valid coins;

selecting a card from a plurality of cards of different vendors that are not initially associated with any value;

storing on a magnetic or solid-state storage medium of said card a monetary value; and

dispensing said selected card from the self-service machine.

272. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 271, further comprising:

receiving a credit card in a card module of the self-service machine;

accessing, using a communication device, an account associated with the credit card; deducting a specified amount from a line of credit associated with said credit card; and adding to said total value of the bulk coins the specified amount prior to the act of dispensing the card having the storage medium for storing the monetary value that is related to said total

value.

273. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 271, further comprising:

receiving at least one bill in a bill module of the self-service machine;

discriminating, using at least one bill discrimination device, the at least one bill to determine whether it is a valid bill;

determining a value of the at least one bill; and

adding to said total value of the bulk coins the value of the at least one bill prior to the act of dispensing the card having the storage medium for storing the monetary value that is related to said total value.

274. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 272, further comprising:

receiving at least one bill in a bill module of the self-service machine;

discriminating, using at least one bill discrimination device, the at least one bill to determine whether it is a valid bill;

determining a value of the at least one bill; and

adding to said total value of the bulk coins and the specified amount the value of the at least one bill prior to the act of dispensing the card having the storage medium for storing the monetary value that is related to said total value.

275. (Cancelled).

276. (Currently Amended) A method of redeeming currency from a customer at a self-service machine according to claim ~~[[275]]~~ 271, wherein ~~said card has stored on said storage medium a monetary value related to said total value of said valid coins~~said act of selecting a card from a plurality of cards of different vendors that are not initially associated with any value comprises selecting a card from among a plurality of different vendors, at least one of the plurality of different vendors comprising a bank.

277. (Currently Amended) A method of redeeming currency from a customer at a self-service machine according to claim ~~[[275]]~~ 271, wherein ~~said card has stored on said storage medium account information related to an account to which said total value of said valid~~

coins is associated at least a first one of the different vendors is a first company and a second one of the different vendors is a second company, wherein the first company is different than the second company.

278. (Currently Amended) A self-service machine configured to redeem coins, the self-service machine comprising:

a bulk coin receptacle located in a first region of the self-service machine, the bulk coin receptacle being configured to accept substantially simultaneously input bulk coins;

a transport means for moving the coins from the bulk coin receptacle in the first region of the self-service machine to a coin separation module disposed in a second region of the self-service machine;

a coin separation module configured to separate the coins into a single-file stream of coins;

a coin discrimination device disposed to receive coins output in the single-file stream from the coin separation module and to determine a validity of each coin in the single-file stream of coins;

a controller configured to compute a total value of the valid coins; and

a card dispenser bearing a plurality of cards that are not associated with any value, each card bearing a storage medium upon which a value may be stored,

wherein the controller is configured to store a value related to the total value in association with a storage medium of one card of the plurality of cards and to dispense said one card from the card dispenser, and

wherein the plurality of cards available for dispensing comprise a first plurality of cards associated with a first issuing entity and a second plurality of cards associated with a second issuing entity, the first issuing entity being different from the second issuing entity.

279. (Previously Presented) The self-service machine of claim 278, wherein the controller is configured to store the value related to the total value directly on the storage medium of said one card.

280. (Previously Presented) The self-service machine of claim 278, wherein the controller is

configured to store the value related to the total value in an account related to account information stored on said one card.

281. (Previously Presented) The self-service machine of claim 278, wherein the controller is configured to store the value related to the total value in a user's grocery store account related to account information stored on said one card.

282. (New) A method of redeeming currency from a customer at a self-service machine, comprising:

receiving, in a bulk coin receptacle located in a first region of the self-service machine, randomly oriented bulk coins input by said customer;

moving the coins from the bulk coin receptacle in the first region of the self-service machine to a coin separation module in a second region of the self-service machine;

separating the coins into a single-file stream of coins using the coin separation module; discriminating, using at least one coin discrimination device disposed downstream of the coin separation module, each coin in the stream of coins to determine whether it is a valid coin;

determining a total value of the valid coins;

providing an option to receive a monetary value that is related to said total value in the form of a card selected from a plurality of cards that are not initially associated with any value, but which can be selectively associated with said monetary value;

selecting a card from the plurality of cards;

storing on a magnetic or solid-state storage medium of said card the monetary value; and

dispensing said selected card from the self-service machine,

wherein at least two of the plurality of cards available for selection are associated with different issuing entities.

283. (New) A self-service machine configured to redeem coins, the self-service machine comprising:

a display device;

a bulk coin receptacle located in a first region of the self-service machine, the bulk coin

receptacle being configured to accept substantially simultaneously input bulk coins;

a transport means for moving the coins from the bulk coin receptacle in the first region of the self-service machine to a coin separation module disposed in a second region of the self-service machine;

a coin separation module configured to separate the coins into a single-file stream of coins;

a coin discrimination device disposed to receive coins output in the single-file stream from the coin separation module and to determine a validity of each coin in the single-file stream of coins;

a controller configured to compute a total value of the valid coins;

a card dispenser bearing a plurality of cards that are not initially associated with any value, each card bearing a storage medium upon which a value may be stored in association with a plurality of different card vendors, the plurality of cards comprising at least a first card associated with a first vendor and a second card associated with a second vendor;

wherein the controller is configured to prompt a user to select a vendor from the plurality of different card vendors and, responsive to the selection, to store a value related to the total value in association with a storage medium of one card of the plurality of cards and to dispense said one card from the card dispenser.